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**THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MARKET RASEN**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

and of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

JOHN POTTS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

for the Year

1953.

Public Health and General Purposes Committee—

Councillor G. R. SPENCER (Chairman), with all the
Members of the Council.

Medical Officer of Health—

R. J. R. MECREDY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector—

JOHN POTTS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the

MARKET RASEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Nettleship and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1953.

The birth rate is again higher than that for England and Wales but the death rate is also much higher.

There were no epidemics of the notifiable infectious diseases during the year and the total number of notifications was only just over half that reported in 1952.

It will be noted that over half of all the deaths recorded were from the various diseases of the heart and circulatory system.

The general health of the children of school age remains reasonably good as noted both in the schools and at the School Clinic. This is well exemplified in the complete absence of all cases of contagious skin disease.

The considerable increase in the number of habitable houses by 170 since the 1931 census is a matter for congratulation. This must have led to a considerable decrease in overcrowding as the population has remained virtually constant during this period.

Over half the houses in Market Rasen have not yet got an internal water supply. Very slow progress is being made in this respect as is also the case in the conversion of pail closets to water closets.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector—Mr. J. Potts—is included in this report. It will be seen that he has had a strenuous year and has done good work.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. R. MECREDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL AND GENERAL STATISTICS.

Land	...	...	...	...	...	972 acres
Water	...	...	...	...	...	4 acres
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	2178
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	2048
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	2133
Population (estimated 1953)	...	...	...	...	...	2134
Habitable Houses (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	611
Habitable Houses (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	783

The Rateable Value of the Urban District on the 1st April, 1953, was £12,274 and the product of the penny rate was £47/15/11½ for the year ending 31st March, 1953.

The estimated population shows a rise of 64 over the figure for 1952, but shows little change from that found in the Census of 1921 or 1931.

New houses built since 1945 total 108 while during the same period 19 houses have been closed.

VITAL STATISTICS

It will be noted that there were no deaths of infants under one year of age. The number of births recorded is the highest for some time and well above the average for the last 20 years. Unfortunately the number of deaths recorded also shows a considerable rise above the average.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the Year 1953

Total live births	...	47	
Illegimate births	...	2	
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	26.3	15.5 for England and Wales
Total deaths	...	42	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	14.1	11.4 for England and Wales
Deaths of infants under one year of age	...	Nil	
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	Nil	
Stillbirths	...	3	

Notifiable Diseases.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2
Measles	3
Whooping Cough	6

Total 11

The Urban District was therefore relatively free from any epidemic of the notifiable diseases. Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia were not notified during the year.

40 Children were immunised against Diphtheria and 30 children received a booster dose.

13 Children were vaccinated against Smallpox and 10 were revaccinated.

18 Children were immunised against Whooping Cough.

HEALTH AND WELFARE OF SCHOOLCHILDREN.

Of the 156 children who attended the School Clinic at Market Rasen the majority were treated for bronchitis, anaemia, debility and poor nutrition. No cases of contagious skin disease were seen either in the schools or at the Clinic. The general level of health amongst the children remains fairly good. Dental caries and deformities of the feet are still the most prevalent conditions which require treatment.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

				Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	1	Nil
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	Nil	Nil
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	Nil	Nil
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	Nil	Nil
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	Nil	Nil
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	Nil	Nil
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	Nil	Nil
8.	Measles	...	...	Nil	Nil
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	Nil	Nil
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	1	Nil
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	...	...	1	Nil
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	Nil
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	Nil
14.	Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	Nil	5
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	1	Nil
16.	Diabetes	...	...	Nil	1
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	...	...	4	4
18.	Coronary disease, Angina	...	...	1	1
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	1	Nil
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	4	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	1	1
22.	Influenza	...	...	Nil	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	2	1
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	2	Nil
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	Nil	Nil
26.	Ulcers of the stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	Nil

				Males	Females
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	Nil	Nil
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	Nil	Nil
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	Nil	—
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	—	Nil
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	Nil	Nil
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	1	Nil
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	1	Nil
34.	All other accidents	...	...	Nil	Nil
35.	Suicide	...	...	Nil	Nil
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	Nil	Nil
Total Deaths				22	20

It should be noted that 23 of the 42 deaths recorded were from diseases of the heart and circulatory system while 7 deaths were recorded from malignant diseases.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Mental Illness.

Treatment is arranged in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board. Supervision and after care is carried out by specially trained workers employed by the County Council.

Mental Defectives.

The County Council through the Regional Hospital Board makes arrangements for the institutional care of mental defectives.

The County Council remains responsible for the care and supervision of mentally defectives in their own homes. This work is carried out by the Health Visitors.

2. Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, 8, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, and at Grimsby and District Hospital. Diphtheria Anti-toxin, Anti-toxin, Antityphoid Serum, and Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Anti-toxin can be supplied by the District Council or from the above Laboratories.

3. Ambulance Facilities, Under National Fire Service.

An ambulance can be obtained either through the patient's Doctor or Nurse, or in the event of emergency by asking the Telephone Operator for the Ambulance Station.

SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Nursing in the Home.

All District Nurses now come under the authority of the Lindsey County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Treatment and after care of tubercular cases now comes under the Regional Hospital Board. School Clinics remain under the charge of the Lindsey County Council.

Hospitals—Isolation.

All cases of Infectious Disease and Smallpox are dealt with by the Regional Hospital Board.

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

Administered by the Lindsey County Council. Dental treatment arranged through the Lindsey County Council

Health Visitors.

The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

Infant Life Protection.

The duties of the above are performed through the Lindsey County Council.

Arrangements for Dental Treatment are made through the Lindsey County Council.

Registration of Nursing Homes is controlled by the Lindsey County Council.

Orthopaedic cases are now seen at the various hospital out-patient departments and at the School Clinics.

Home Help Service.

Full-time and part-time home helps are now available in the District arranged for by the Lindsey County Council.

HOUSING.

14 new Council houses were built during the year bringing the number now occupied on the Wold View Estate up to 96. There were 16 Council houses in course of construction at the end of the year.

Four privately built houses were erected during the year. The total of such privately built houses since 1945 has risen to 26.

18 houses have been closed in the Urban District since 1945.

It will be noted that when the present building programme is completed just one seventh of all the houses in the town will have been built by the Council. No houses were closed during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The installation of water supplies in houses continues to proceed very slowly. During the year 5 houses had an indoor supply of water provided. This brings the total number of houses adequately supplied in this respect to 368. Of the 783 houses in the town 415 are still without an indoor water supply.

Further plans are in train for augmenting the present water supply from the Tealby Springs.

SANITATION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

With the conversion of 8 pail to water closets the number of premises with water closets now numbers 472. There still remain 311 houses with pail or earth closets.

The sewage works at Middle Rasen continues to operate with reasonable efficiency in view of its handicaps.

To the MARKET RASEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman, Members and Medical Officer of the Urban District Council of Market Rasen.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I desire respectfully to make my Report of activities during 1953 as follows :—

In the Public Health sphere, matters can be viewed with satisfaction. The Council again this year added a further 14 new houses which were occupied during the year, and at the end of the year were proceeding with further house erection. The major portion of these should be ready for occupation within the next 3 to 4 months, at which time the Wold View Estate will have been completed, and I am sure the Council can feel satisfied that the Post War acute housing shortage will become definitely relieved. With the private owner erected houses, the total of new houses in the district is 18 this year. No old dwellings within the township have been confiscated by the Council during 1953. The standard of housing is fairly high but upon a number re-conditioning is really necessary. Some small percentage are beyond this. I am informed by the Medical Officer, that a further survey of local housing is to be commenced at no distant date. Houses rendered fit under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year numbered 18.

Town Main domestic water has been laid indoors from outdoor stand-pipes at 5 houses, where new sinks have been installed and wastes delivered to trapped outdoor gullies. A few older houses have had Bathrooms and W.C.s. installed. Pail and midden closet conversions to water carriage system during the year numbered 8, and old drainage and sewer services re-constructed have been 43.

At the Council's (Joint Authority) Sewage Disposal Works at Middle Rasen, taken through the year the treatment of sewage has been good, but the condition of lengths of sewerage main in both Market Rasen and Middle Rasen, for which the Council is responsible, are not sound, notwithstanding which production of a good effluent has been obtained during the year. The present condition of Main Pumping machinery is now showing wear and pumping machinery replacements should be proceeded with in the new year.

House Refuse collection has been good throughout the year. Housing dustbin work has again increased and night work is now showing reduction. Tipping ground area is rapidly becoming used up, and finding replacement areas is a difficult question.

Control of Milk-distribution has been carefully watched, and regular inspections made, a little trouble with irregular storage of bottled milk upon street-sides has been encountered and necessary action taken. Premises registered for the sale of Ice-cream are now 13. Food preparation premises registered are seven and there has been little trouble with both types of registered premises, a good standard has been maintained.

Factory Act and Bakehouse work has been kept up. Registered Factories and Workshops number 51, and 85 inspections were made. Three complaints were dealt with, and two written Notices of defects had to be served. The two Bakehouses have been well kept and shown good management.

RODENT CONTROL.

I am in a position to say that during 1953 the work has not necessarily been above the usual figures. The Council's joint scheme of control with Caistor R.D.C. has proved good, their Operator, when employed in Market Rasen has worked well. Sewers and Tips have had regular treatment. Rat infestation has not been very heavy and work upon private property has only been necessary once.

Records of Inspections made as follows—

Public Health Inspections	113
Public Health re-inspections	97
Inspections for overcrowding-Housing ...	5
Food and Shop inspections	53
Fried Fish Shops	14
Meat Shops	9
Bakehouses	11
Housing Maintenance and Repairs ...	64
Infectious Disease	4
Disinfestation vermin	5
Refuse Collections	51
Refuse Bin Inspections	21
Factories	85
Drainage	54
Drainage for testing, etc.	32
Rats and Mice	14
Closets and Conversions	42
Water Supply	5
Visits made during the year not under classified heading	40

Inspection of Food.

Five pigs and four sheep, slaughtered for emergency purposes were inspected. Parts and Organs of Carcases were condemned as unfit for food in four cases, and one entire pig carcase was condemned for generalised Tuberculosis ; the remaining quantities of this type of food was found sound.

During the year the following foods were condemned unfit for human food :—

169 tins of food of various kinds, including Vegetables, Fish, Meat, Pork, Milk, Fruit, etc.

4 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. of sausage, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. of cooked ham, one Gammon Ham and 98lbs. of Home-killed meat shop cuts.

The standard of food handling in the district has been good, but the conditions of food storage and sale, laid down in the Council's Food Byelaws, has had to be brought to notice in one or two cases. Improvement then resulted.

I remain,

Lady and Gentlemen,

Obediently yours,

JOHN POTTS,

Sanitary Inspector.

